G.291.

Newes from SEA,

CONCERNING

Prince Rupert,

Capt. Pluncket, Capt. Munckel,

And others:

WITH SOME

TRANSACTIONS

BETWIXT THE

King of Portingal,

AND

Them. Together with the taking of certain Ships; and a Relation touching the ſtrange Newes of the BARBADOES.

ALSO,

The diſcovery of a Plot in the Iſle of *Silly*, for deſtroying of the *Engliſh*; and the principall Actors tryed by a Councell of Warre.

LONDON, *Printed for* J. C. *and are to be ſold at the Royall Exchange in* Cornhill, *and in the* Old-Bayley. 1650.

A

LETTER

FROM

PLYMOUTH, Dated the 10th *day of* May 1650.

HE that by himſelf or by any other, beginneth any dangerous enterpriſe without foreſeeing the end and *Iſſue* thereof, bringeth himſelf and others into peril; This hath been a received maxim, and newly verified by the late overthrow given to the forces lately landed in *Scotland*, (reported to be of *Montroſſes* party, conſiſting chiefly of *Sweads* and *Danes*) of which their is intelligence come hither this day, that they have received a great overthrow, by a party of Lieut. Gen. *David Leſtlies*, who (ſaith ſome Letters) have routed, killed and taken at leaſt three thouſand, amongſt whom *Hurry* himſelf, is reported to be one of the Priſonerstaken, and others of great quality; which comming from ſuch hands, as we have no cauſe to queſtion the truth thereof, puts me in mind of an old Proverb, *viz. That they which take upon them more then of right belongeth, commiteth a great error, and ſeldom eſcape unpuniſhed.*

Foure *Straights* Ships are come into this Harbor, (beſides two *Eaſt-India* Ships hereafter mentioned) the Seamen report that many *Pyrats* infeſt the narrow Seas: the clearing of the Coaſts of ſuch implacable Enemies, would be a great incouragement to *Merchants*, and therefore we are very joyful to hear that there is a gallant Fleet prepared by the *Parliament*, and as we are informed, is already fallen into the *Downes*; the knowledge whereof, ſtrikes a terror into the Enemy, who having perſiſted in their obſtinacy, deſerve not the leaſt favour; for how can it be ſafe for the *Commonwealth* not to revenge ſuch injuries done to the State: A Maſter of one of theſe Ships ſaith, that he heard that there was with Prince *Rupert* at *Lisborne*, Capt. *Pluncket*, Gapt. *Muckell*, and ſeveral others eminent for their Rebellious actings againſt the Common-wealth of *England*; but what hath been done ſince the *King* of *Portingall* refuſed to protect them, he knoweth not for that it is ſome weeks ſince he had this Intelligence.

Truly Sir, it is not onely my opinion, but the judgment of many others, well wiſhers to the peace and tranquility of this Nation, that if men would conſider how much it gives advantage to the common Enemy, which ſtudy nothing ſo much as to find an advantage to bring us into new miſeries, there would not be ſuch diviſions amongſt men; but every one ſhould rather joyn together as one for defence of the whole body, and lay aſide back-bitings, and reproachful ſpeeches which are oftentimes the cauſe of much evill, and draweth others to do ſome things which may be thought unreaſonable. Theſe kinds of diſtempers are commonly moved firſt in diſquiet ſpirits, who ordinarily

narily crave more then is fit to be granted, looking rather on what they fancy to be good, or in their own private judgments imagine to be evil, then to inform themselves, that the first degree to attain vertue and honesty, is to obey the Lawes, and reverence those that are in Authority over us, and for want of a due observation hereof, many have plunged themselves into eminent dangers, and cause feares and jealousies where needeth not any; for as all men ought to be governed by Lawes and certain Rules, so ought there to be some persons that shall put those Lawes in execution, and thereby govern the people: *Scipio* saith, it is the Saylors endeavour to get a faire passage, the travel of the *Phisician* tendeth to health, and a Captains labor is for victory: so should it be the glory and vertue of every privat man, to be dilligent in his Calling, and not to meddle with those things that are too high for him.

This advice I have thought good to remember you of, yet it is not because you have occasion to make use thereof in your own particular; but to the end you may as oppertunity is ministred, perswade with others whom you find averse and obstinate, and would stir up such Coales which should not onely set their Neighbors, but their own house on fire. I shall return again to our Intelligence.

Two gallant Ships are arrived in this Harbor, appertaining to London Marchants, they are richly laden, and intend by the next fair wind, to hoist sail for the port of London, to which place, we make not any question but they may come with safety. The Sea-men in the said Ships, expres a very good affe-

ction to the Parliament of England, and ſay that they will willingly ſacrifice their lives upon occaſion for defence of this Common-Wealth, under the preſent Government, without King or Houſe of Lords, which is the more remarkable, in reſpect the ſaid words were uttered before they heard of the Engagement, or had it tendered unto any of them. Theſe Seamen are come home very rich, and do much lament the loſs of ſome of their Country men, whom they hear to be lately taked by the *French*, yet if any ſuch thing hath been done, the Parliaments and cheif Governors of that Nation, are ſaid to be no abetters or countinancers thereof, preſſing rather a deſire of a continuance of a League and friendſhip, then to grant Letters of Mart. The laſt Ship taken, was of a conſiderable value, and was not taken without a hot fight, and the loſs of many men; and although in the combate the *French*, as ſuch as were with them (men of War and of greater force then their competitors) might get the better at firſt, yet be it known unto the whole world, that the enterpriſes of Pirats and baniſhed perſons are dangerous, and ſeldom come to a good end.

About three days ſince here arrived a man of War, which bringeth intelligence, that as they ſtroke into harbor on the Coaſt of *Holland*, they heard it related, that the King of *Portingal* had given P. *Rupert* a day certain to put forth to Sea, not permiting him to ſtay beyond the time limited in any of his Harbors; and the time being expired, it is reported that there hath been a great fight betwixt him, and Collonel *Blake*, in which conflict the victory is given to the ſaid Collonel *Blake*, and 5: of P. *Ruperts* Ships, are ſaid to be ſunk

and

and taken, without the loſs of one of ours; but of this, I ſuppoſe you have better intelligence at London then any with us.

Having taken liberty thus freely to diſcourſe of ſuch things, which either hapen here or are credibly informed by good hands, give me leave to enlarge my ſelf a little further, in acquainting you what we hear concerning a plantation belonging to the *Common-wealth* of *England*: called the *Barbadoes*, about which I received a Letter the laſt night, what your intelligence was at LONDON, which came onely from a privat hand, and renders no reaſon but Common fame; yet for that, *I* have heard that vulgar reports are not always ſo much to be ſlighted, as that no anſwer at all were neceſſary to be returned, *I* ſhall make bold to inform you, in breif what is related here by the *Sea*-men, touching that buſineſs, which (ſay they) is only thus; An unskilful Pilot miſſing his compaſs, and thereby failing of the intended harbor, to vindicate his own reputation perſwaded the Marriners, that the Iſland was removed out of the place in which it formerly ſtood: And how far his Rhetorick might ſway their beleif in this kind I know not, but of this *I* am ſure, that it gains little credit of any others that hear thereof.

MVSEVM BRITANNICVM

PARTICVLAR.

SInce the writing of these lines, newes is come hither, that there is a great difference betwixt the English *and the* Irish, *in the Isle of* Silly, *and that* Noy *could hardly appease the same without bloods. A Collonel and some others were tryed by a Councel of Warre, for having a hand in a plot to cut off the* English, *who are fewer in number then the* Irish. *This broyle is like to take some further rooting there, and probably will work such division, that will not quickly be reconciled, if that young* Preston *carry not the* Irish *back into their own Countrey: The Souldiers there are reported to be generally very poor, the Island affording little accomodation, either for back or belly, and they that go abroad in vessels, to fish or theeve for the rest will, be sure to have the best share.*

Vale.